

TOURNEY CORRESPONDENCE  
NEW YORK, 1855

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Princeton Monday  
March 12/55

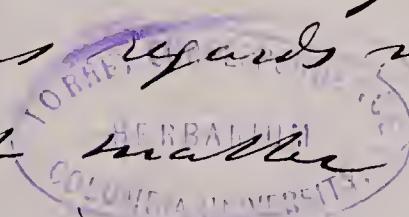
Dear Sir.

Well! who ever thought old Nassau would take to itself levity & fly away! - Carbonic Acid & vapors of water have gone - gone far away - a heap of ashes only remains of all that was combustible of Nassau Hall. Not one single unroasted bed-bug within its clastic walls. Just look at it - The outer walls stand entire - The chimneys stand - some of the partition walls stand & all else that is not volatile is down

Cellar, ashes, bricks, mortar,  
yet red hot - half melted stones,  
charred iron bedsteads, mashed  
locks & crooked nails - That  
same old hell is down cellar  
not yet disinterred from its  
red hot covering of rubbish -  
Look at old Massan - Do you  
remember how you felt  
when for the first time you  
were confronted by a skeleton.  
Do you remember the shudder  
then its eyeless sockets first  
stared at you? Do stand  
Massan Hall - Ghastly, lifeless,  
still - His windowless orbits  
stare at one till he quails,  
shudders & turns away -

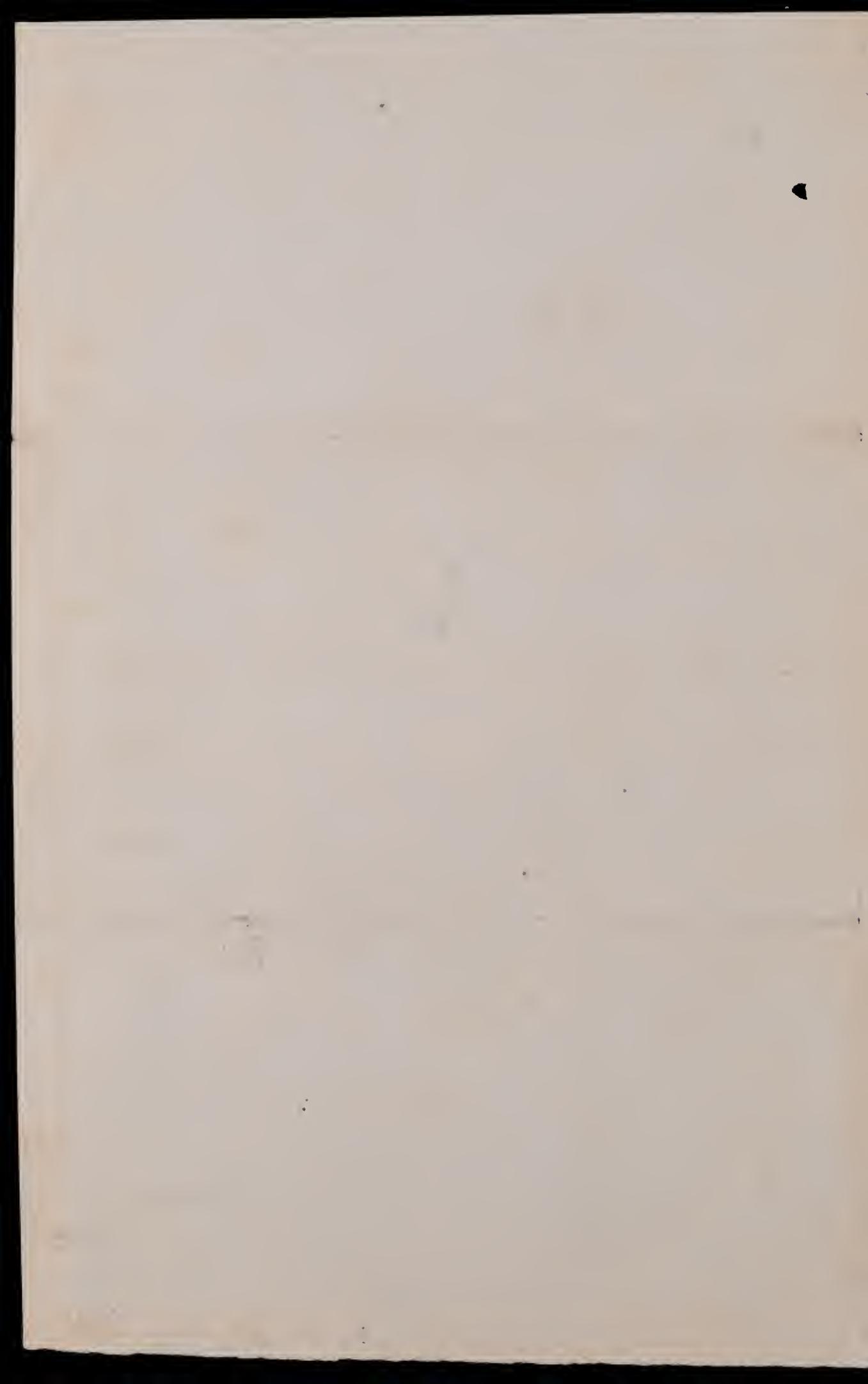
Add here & there a rigger  
raking in the ashes for pennies  
& the outline is sufficiently complete.

Your note of a few days  
since reached me. I handed the  
contained note to Lytle -

I long much for one of  
our old talks - Come along  
& let's go at it. - Henn is  
in a very unpleasant posi-  
tion - Gayot is doing very  
well here - Probably will  
leave for the east in about  
a fortnight - I heard Holton  
a few times - Do not know  
what are his prospects, per-  
haps rather fair than other-  
wise - You are evidently some-  
what astray as regards my  
relation to that  matter -

I am glad they are got through.  
I feared he might fail for want  
of time if not of knowledge - -  
I have not seen him yet - -  
Kind regards to your family -

Cordially yrs - J. G. Schenck



Re<sup>9</sup> March 18. (1854).  
and on 19

Princeton Mar 17/53

My Dear Dr.



your last

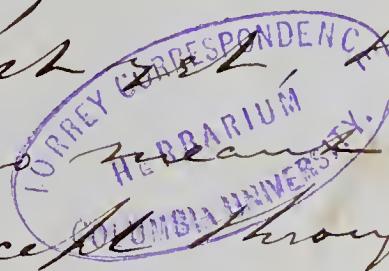
note has long been lying  
before me unanswered,  
mainly because I have  
from day to day been  
hoping you might drop  
in upon us -

I was quite surprised  
to gratified to be called,  
on coming out from  
church on Sunday, by  
Miss Margaret with whom  
I chatted a few moments.  
I begged her to call &

see Mrs. S. which to-day  
she attempted to do, but  
it being just about the  
time of the arrival of  
a little daughter about  
house neither Mrs. S. or  
myself could conveniently  
receive or entertain her.  
I believe Miss M. as well  
as Mrs. S. & infant, is  
doing well. —

Your note reached  
me at just about the  
time our friends here were  
in a stew over the report  
that your College intended  
to take Prof. Alexander  
from us — The talk has  
died away but I think

The silent fear remains.  
It is conceded that you  
can out-bid us & that is  
supposed to give you a  
very large advantage -

I hear of no selection  
of chemist  though  
I have no ~~means~~ of  
hearing except through you  
or perhaps Greeley - He  
knows every thing & as he  
has not announced the  
choice I infer it prob-  
ably has not yet been  
publicly made - I know  
but little of the men you  
named - I have heard  
Schaeffer's name more fre-  
quently than either of the  
others. -  
Hollom made us a

Pleasant visit - He has improved some but has much of Holton in him yet. - I hope he may soon find Mrs H. - If she proves the right one she will contribute largely to his success at Middlebury. -

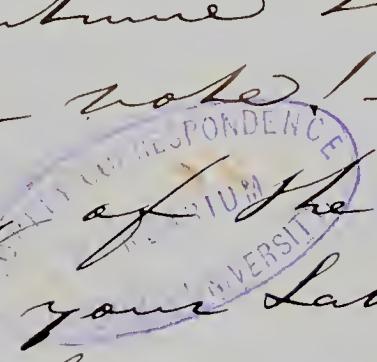
I hope to hear a favourable account of your trial of the McCulloch process - But may not the new dynasty smother it all again - Poor Buchanan - They'll kill him! -

What a pretty piece of business this Supreme court decision is -

The error to my mind  
is, if negroes are nothing  
but property" - & have no  
rights which a white man  
is bound to respect"

Whether it is not about  
time to agitate the  
question how long they  
are to continue to cast  
so large a vote! —

Many of the arti-  
cles from your laboratory  
come in play even in  
so short a chemical  
course as is now  
progressing & nearly completed  
here - I intend to plead  
hard in a week or two



for more room to array  
them & have some hope  
of success. — The Minerals  
are yet unpacked for  
want of shelf room.

I think I may be  
tempted to visit N.Y.  
within a week or two  
or three, even at the  
risk of being ~~poorly received~~  
or Eckleized.

So poor Barley has  
gone — gone I hope to  
meet his wife & daughter  
in a better world. —  
I remember well my  
only interview with him  
at your house here — How  
great the change for all of us  
since then. — very truly

J. S. Schenck